

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1-51. (Canceled)

52. (New) Strapping which has been molecularly oriented by stretching in a longitudinal direction of the strapping, having a width of 0.5-3 cm and a thickness of 0.03-0.20 cm, comprising:

about 97.2-99.8% by weight polyester; and

about 0.2-2.8% by weight of one or more polyolefins selected from the group consisting of linear low density polyethylene, branched low density polyethylene, a high density polyethylene, polypropylene, and combinations thereof;

wherein the polyolefin is chemically unmodified and causes the strapping to have increased resistance to splitting in the longitudinal direction.

53. (New) The strapping of Claim 52, comprising:

98.0-99.6% by weight of the polyester; and

0.4-2.0% by weight of the one or more polyolefins.

54. (New) The strapping of Claim 52, comprising:

98.5-99.5% by weight of the polyester; and

0.5-1.5% by weight of one or more polyolefins.

55. (New) The strapping of Claim 52, wherein the polyester is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene terephthalate, polybutylene terephthalate, and combinations thereof.

56. (New) The strapping of Claim 52, wherein the polyester is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene naphthalate, polyethylene isophthalate, and combinations thereof.

57. (New) The strapping of Claim 52, wherein the polyester has an intrinsic viscosity in the range from 0.7-1.2 deciliters per gram.

58. (New) The strapping of Claim 52, wherein the polyolefin comprises linear low density polyethylene.

59. (New) The strapping of Claim 52, wherein the polyolefin comprises polypropylene.

60. (New) The strapping of Claim 52, further comprising a polyolefin that is chemically grafted with a polar monomer.

61. (New) The strapping of Claim 52, further comprising an elastomeric material.

62. (New) The strapping of Claim 60, wherein the elastomeric material comprises a styrene block copolymer.

63. (New) The strapping of Claim 52, consisting essentially of the polyester and the one or more polyolefins.

64. (New) The strapping of Claim 52, wherein the width is in the range from 1-2.5 cm and the thickness is in the range from 0.05-0.15 cm.

65. (New) The strapping of Claim 52, having a uniaxially oriented length which is in the range from 3-7 times an initial, unstretched length.

66. (New) Strapping which has been molecularly oriented by stretching in a longitudinal direction of the strapping, having a width of 0.5-3 cm, a thickness of 0.03-0.20 cm and an oriented length which is 3-7 times an initial, unstretched length, comprising:

about 97.2-99.8% by weight polyester; and

about 0.2-2.8% by weight of one or more polyolefins selected from the group consisting of linear low density polyethylene, branched low density polyethylene, high density polyethylene, polypropylene, and combinations thereof;

wherein the polyolefin is non-reactive and causes the strapping to have increased resistance to splitting in the longitudinal direction.

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67. (New) The strapping of Claim 66, wherein the non-reactive polyolefin comprises polypropylene having a density of about 0.875-0.900 grams/cm³ and a melt flow rate of about 1-20 grams/10 min.

68. (New) The strapping of Claim 66, wherein the non-reactive polyolefin comprises linear low density polyethylene having a melt index of about 0.5-12 grams/10 min. and a comonomer selected from the group consisting of butane, hexene, and octene.

69. (New) The strapping of Claim 66, comprising:
98.0-99.6% by weight of the polyester; and
0.4-2.0% by weight of the one or more polyolefins.

70. (New) Strapping which has been molecularly oriented by stretching in a longitudinal direction of the strapping, having a width of 0.5-3 cm, a thickness of 0.03-0.20 cm and an oriented length which is 3-7 times an initial, unstretched length comprising:

about 97.2-99.8% by weight polyester selected from the group consisting of polyethylene terephthalate, polybutylene terephthalate, polyethylene naphthalate, polyethylene isophthalate, and combinations thereof; and

about 0.2-2.8% by weight of one or more polyolefins selected from the group consisting of linear low density polyethylene, polypropylene, and combinations thereof;

wherein the polyolefin is non-reactive and causes the strapping to have increased resistance to splitting in the longitudinal direction.

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71. (New) The strapping of Claim 70, wherein the polyester has an intrinsic viscosity of about 0.7-1.2 deciliters per gram.